

## **CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

1. A containment system for a dendritic object, said system comprising:

a substantially cylindrical containment tube formed of a flexible material, configured to contain said dendritic object, and having a first tube end and a second tube end;

a first closure device coupled to said containment tube proximate said first tube end and configured to releasably constrict said containment tube at said first tube end; and

a second closure device coupled to said containment tube proximate said second tube end and configured to releasably constrict said containment tube at said second tube end.

2. A containment system as claimed in claim 1 wherein said flexible material is a sheet formed substantially of one of a fabric, a polymeric film, and a paper.

3. A containment system as claimed in claim 2 wherein, when said sheet is formed substantially of said paper, said paper is coated so as to render said sheet resistant to moisture.

4. A containment system as claimed in claim 1 wherein:  
said containment tube has a hem of said flexible material  
formed substantially around a circumference of said first tube  
end, wherein said hem has a first opening thereinto and a second  
opening thereinto proximate said first opening; and  
said first closure device is a drawstring configured to enter  
said hem through said first opening, pass around a portion of  
said circumference within said hem, and exit said hem through  
said second opening.

5. A containment system as claimed in claim 4 wherein said  
drawstring is configured to constrict and substantially close  
said first tube end.

6. A containment system as claimed in claim 4 additionally  
comprising an end piece configured to cover an end of said  
dendritic object when said drawstring constricts said first tube  
end.

7. A containment system as claimed in claim 6 wherein said  
end piece is affixed to said containment tube proximate said  
first tube end.

8. A containment system as claimed in claim 6 wherein said  
end piece is formed of said flexible material.

9. A containment system as claimed in claim 6 wherein:  
said flexible material is a first flexible material; and  
said end piece is formed of a second flexible material.

10. A containment system as claimed in claim 1 additionally comprising a handle affixed to an outer surface of said containment tube.

11. A containment system for a dendritic object, said system comprising:

a containment tube configured to enshroud said dendritic object, formed of a flexible material, and having a tube end;

an end piece proximate said tube end; and

a closure device coupled to one of said end piece and said containment tube proximate said tube end and configured to substantially close said tube end.

12. A containment system as claimed in claim 11 wherein:

said containment tube is substantially cylindrical; and

said end piece is substantially circular.

13. A containment system as claimed in claim 11 wherein said flexible material is a first flexible material, and wherein said end piece is formed of a second flexible material.

14. A containment system as claimed in claim 11 wherein said end piece is formed of a substantially inflexible material.

15. A containment system as claimed in claim 11 wherein said end piece is affixed to said containment tube proximate said tube end.

16. A containment system as claimed in claim 11 wherein said closure device is a zipper having a first portion coupled to said containment tube proximate said tube end and a second portion coupled to one of said containment tube and said end piece.

17. A containment system as claimed in claim 11 wherein said closure device is a hook-and-loop fastener.

18. A containment system as claimed in claim 17 wherein a first portion of said hook-and-loop fastener is coupled to said containment tube proximate said tube end and a second portion of said hook-and-loop fastener is coupled to said end piece.

19. A containment system comprising:  
an object having a dendritic portion; and  
a containment tube configured to enshroud said dendritic portion, said containment tube being formed of a flexible material, having a first open tube end, and having a second open tube end.

20. A containment system as claimed in claim 19 additionally comprising:

a first closure device coupled to said containment tube proximate said first open tube end and configured to substantially close said containment tube at said first open tube end; and

a second closure device coupled to said containment tube proximate said second open tube end, and configured to substantially close said containment tube at said second open tube end.

21. A containment system as claimed in claim 20 wherein:  
said object has a non-dendritic portion; and  
said first closure device is configured to substantially  
close said containment tube about said non-dendritic portion.